

LOW PRESSURE COATED ARTICLE WITH POLYMERIC BASECOAT
HAVING THE APPEARANCE OF STAINLESS STEEL

Related Application

This application is a continuation-in-part application of
copending application Serial No. 09/827,005 filed April 5, 2001, now US Patent
6,558,816.

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to articles, particularly brass
articles, coated with a multi-layered decorative and protective
coating having the appearance or color of stainless steel.

Background of the Invention

It is currently the practice with various brass articles
such as faucets, faucet escutcheons, door knobs, door handles,
door escutcheons and the like to first buff and polish the
surface of the article to a high gloss and to then apply a
protective organic coating, such as one comprised of acrylics,
urethanes, epoxies and the like, onto this polished surface.
This system has the drawback that the buffing and polishing
operation, particularly if the article is of a complex shape, is
labor intensive. Also, the known organic coatings are not
always as durable as desired, and are susceptible to attack by
acids. It would, therefore, be quite advantageous if brass
articles, or indeed other articles, either plastic, ceramic, or
metallic, could be provided with a coating which provided the
article with a decorative appearance as well as providing wear
resistance, abrasion resistance and corrosion resistance. It is
known in the art that a multi-layered coating can be applied to
an article which provides a decorative appearance as well as
providing wear resistance, abrasion resistance and corrosion
resistance. This multi-layer coating includes a decorative and
protective color layer of a refractory metal nitride such as a
zirconium nitride or a titanium nitride. This color layer, when

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